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Attachment to [REDACTED]
17 December 1969

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REFERENCE TO: MISSION 1108

AIRFIELD CONSTRUCTION
EGYPT

1. SIGNIFICANCE: AIRFIELDS UNDER CONSTRUCTION AT WADI ABU RISH AND WADI NATRUN INDICATE THAT EGYPT IS CONTINUING TO EXPAND ITS EXTENSIVE PROGRAM OF AIRFIELD CONSTRUCTION BEGUN FOLLOWING THE JUNE 1967 ARAB-ISRAELI WAR.
2. LOCATION: WADI ABU RISH AIRFIELD [REDACTED]--37
NM EAST OF BANI SUWAYF AND 67 NM SSE OF CAIRO AT 28-59-10N 031-42-15E.
WADI NATRUN AIRFIELD SOUTH [REDACTED]-
10 NM SOUTH OF WADI AN NATRUN AND 47 NM WEST OF CAIRO AT 30-13-00N 030-21-40E.
3. REMARKS: EGYPT HAS BEEN DETERMINED TO PREVENT A REPETITION OF THE 1967 DEBACLE WHEN THE GREATER PART OF ITS AIR-AIRCRAFT INVENTORY WAS DESTROYED ON THE GROUND IN THE FIRST HOURS OF THE WAR. MOREOVER, EGYPT MUST COMPENSATE FOR THE LOSS OF FORWARD AIRFIELDS IN THE SINAI AND CANAL ZONES. TO PROVIDE FOR WIDER DISPERSAL

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GROUP 1: EXCLUDED FROM
AUTOMATIC DOWNGRADING
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OF ITS AIRCRAFT, 11 NEW AIRFIELDS, AND TWO AIRSTRIPS HAVE BEEN CONSTRUCTED IN THE CAIRO/NILE DELTA REGION SINCE 1967. THESE NEW FACILITIES WILL ALSO IMPROVE EGYPT'S CAPABILITY TO OPPOSE POSSIBLE NEW ISRAELI INTRUSIONS AGAINST VITAL ECONOMIC AND STRATEGIC TARGETS IN THE AREA, THE MOST DARING AND DAMAGING OF WHICH HAS BEEN A TEN-HOUR ASSAULT BY AN AMPHIBIOUS FORCE WITH TANKS AND AIR SUPPORT ALONG 40 MILES OF THE RED SEA COAST.

4. COLLATERAL:

A COLLATERAL SOURCE OF OCTOBER 1969 REPORTED THAT A NEW MILITARY AIRFIELD IS UNDER CONSTRUCTION IN THE BIR ZAAFARANO AREA NEAR THE SITE OF THE PRESENT AIRFIELD AT WADI ABU RISH. A SECOND COLLATERAL REPORT OF NOVEMBER 1969 INDICATED THE PRESENCE OF A TROOP CONCENTRATION, BOTH ARMORED AND AIRBORNE, IN THE AREA OF BANI SUWAYF (WADI ABU RISH, WADI GHURAB, BUSH).

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5. FIRST IDENTIFICATION: WADI ABU RISH AIRFIELD, [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]
WADI NATRUN AIRFIELD SOUTH--THIS MISSION.

6. DIMENSIONS/
SPECIFICATIONS:

WADI ABU RISH AIRFIELD--2,850 X 35-METER (9,375
X 120 FOOT) NNE/SSW BLACKTOP RUNWAY UNDER CONSTRUCTION.

WADI NATRUN AIRFIELD SOUTH--1,950 X 45-METER (6,420
X 140 FOOT) NW/SE BLACKTOP RUNWAY UNDER CONSTRUCTION.

7. MISSION READOUT: WADI ABU RISH AIRFIELD--THE RUNWAY IS BEING BLACKTOPPED AND A PARALLEL TAXIWAY IS IN THE INITIAL STAGES OF CONSTRUCTION. INITIAL SCRAPING FOR TWO HANGARETTES IS OBSERVED.

WADI NATRUN AIRFIELD SOUTH--A 1,950 X 45-METER (6,420 X 140 FOOT) NW/SE BLACKTOP RUNWAY IS UNDER CONSTRUCTION WITH A DISPERSAL AREA AT THE SOUTHEAST END OF THE RUNWAY CONSISTING OF TWO AIRCRAFT REVETMENTS AND FOUR PROBABLE HANGARETTES, AND A DISPERSAL AREA AT THE NORTHWEST END OF THE RUNWAY CONSISTING OF FOUR AIRCRAFT REVETMENTS AND FOUR PROBABLE HANGARETTES.


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ENLARGEMENT FACTOR: 40X BOTH AIRFIELDS

IEG/WGD

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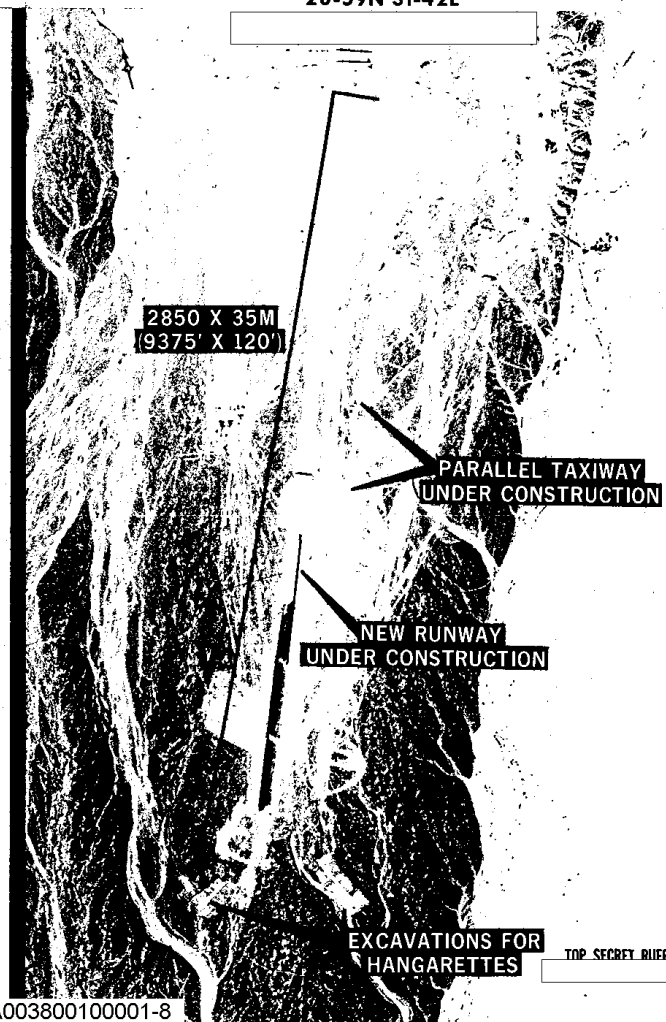
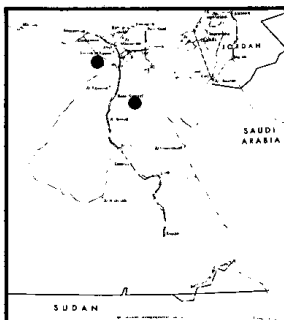
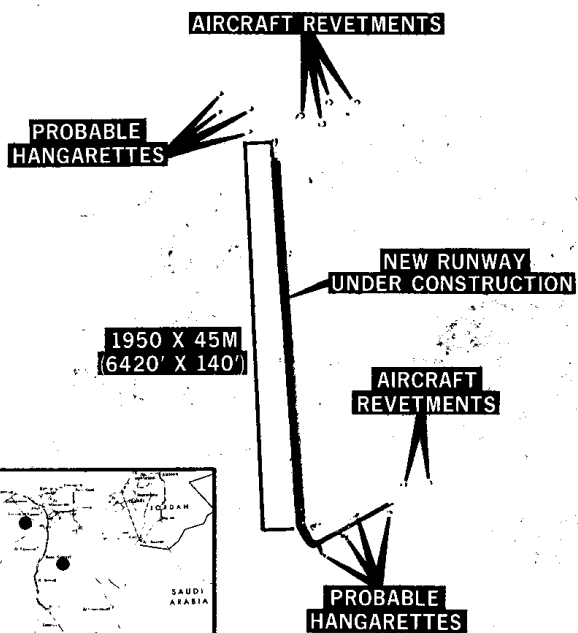
AIRFIELD CONSTRUCTION EGYPT

WADI NATRUN AIRFIELD SOUTH
30-13N 30-21E

WADI ABU RISH AIRFIELD
28-59N 31-42E

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